

Conference: XXVIII IAU General Assembly

Location: Beijing, China

Dates: August 18-31, 2012

Title: "Very massive stars in the primitive galaxy, I Zw 18"

Presenter: Sara Heap

Abstract:

I Zw 18 is a local blue, compact dwarf galaxy that meets the requirements for a primitive galaxy: low halo mass $<10^9$ Msun, strong photoionizing radiation, no galactic outflow, and very low metallicity, $\log(\text{O}/\text{H})+12=7.2$. We will describe the properties and evolutionary status of very massive stars in I Zw 18, based on UV photometry of individual stars in I Zw 18 and analysis of unresolved ultraviolet spectra of I Zw 18-NW obtained with HST.